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E-475

CARL LEVIN
MICHIGAN

P810132-0307

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 21, 1981

The Honorable Alexander Haig
The Secretary of State
Department of State
2201 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20520

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ACTION
is assigned to
E4K

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing to indicate my deep concern for the health and well-being of Yakov Evnovich Kaplan. He is also known as Jan Kaplan.

Mr. Kaplan is a 68-year-old Russian Jew who was released from a Soviet Prison in 1977. While in prison he met a man believed to be Raoul Wallenberg, the Swede who is credited with saving 100,000 Hungarian Jews in the closing months of World War II. The Soviet government has claimed that Wallenberg died in 1946.

On February 1, 1980 Kaplan gave a letter to a tourist telling of the man he met in prison and requesting that the letter be taken out of the Soviet Union. Two days later, Yakov Kaplan was arrested for anti-Soviet activities and taken to the Buterica Prison. His family has not heard from him and fear for his health and safety.

It is my hope that in your upcoming talks with Mr. Gromyko or in future meetings with Soviet officials you will raise the question of Kaplan's whereabouts and well-being. It would also seem appropriate to request that since he is not in good health that it would be a noble humanitarian gesture to release him from prison.

Thank you for your attention to this concern. I wish you well in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

Carl Levin

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IS/FPC/CDR Hkt Date: 10/12/93

MR Cases Only:
EO Citations

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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